

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAKAR 01072 201824Z

70

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01

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FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9963

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, SG

SUBJ: CFDT DELEGATION VISIT TO SENEGAL

REF: PARIS 2530

PARIS FOR LABOR ATTACHE

DEPT FOR AF/I-J.T.SMITH

1. CONFEDERATION FRANCAISE DEMOCRATIQUE DU TRAVAIL (CFDT)
DELEGATION HEADED BY SEC GEN EDMOND MAIRE AND EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS SEC YVES ARCADIAS VISITED SENEGAL AS GUESTS OF
CNTS, FEBRUARY 16-19. MAIRE WAS RECEIVED BY PRIME MINISTER
ABDOU DIOUF. CFDT AND CNTS LEADERS HELD TWO DAYS
OF MEETINGS, AND MAIRE AND CNTS PRESIDENT DOUDOU N'GOM
DISCUSSED RESULTS AT PRESS CONFERENCE FEB 18. CFDT
PARTY LEFT DAKAR FOR LAGOS FEB 19.

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PAGE 02 DAKAR 01072 201824Z

2. AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE, MAIRE PRAISED THE UNIFICATION

OF SENEGALESE LABOR UNIONS UNDER CNTS AS STEP TOWARD
BUILDING UNITED AFRICAN TRADE UNION ORGANIZATION.

AFRICAN LABOR UNITY WAS DEEMED VITAL TO STRUGGLE AGAINST
CULTURAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL IMPERIALISM. CFDT IS
PREPARED TO PLAY A ROLE IN STIMULATING AFRICAN LABOR
UNITY AND IN PLANNING WITH CNTS AND OTHER AFRICAN LABOR
CENTERS A COMMON STRATEGY AGAINST IMPERIALISM.

3. CFDT-AFRICAN SOLIDARITY, MAIRE ADDED, COULD BE DEVELOPED
IN SUCH A WAY AS TO FORM PRESSURE GROUP, ESPECIALLY
AGAINST FRENCH GOVERNMENT, TO SUPPORT AFRICAN POSITION
IN EEC-ACP RELATIONS. CFDT IS SUPPORTING UNITED FRONT OF
PETROLEUM PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS, AND LOOKS FORWARD TO FORMATION
OF OTHER COMBINATIONS WITH LABOR UNION SUPPORT AMONG
PRODUCERS OF PRIMARY PRODUCTS, SUCH AS PHOSPHATES AND PEANUTES.
MAIRE ALSO INVITED CNTS AND OTHER AFRICAN UNIONS TO FORM
A COMMUNITY OF ACTION FOR STRUGGLE AGAINST MULTI-
NATIONAL CORPORATIONS.

4. ON SUBJECT OF AFRICAN IMMIGRANT WORKERS IN FRANCE,
MAIRE SAID CFDT SUPPORTED REGULARIZATION OF STATUS OF IMMIGRANTS
THROUGH STATE-TO-STATE-NEGOTIATIONS. CFDT IS ALREADY ENGAGED IN
CAMPAIGN AGAINST CLANDESTINE IMMIGRATION INTO FRANCE, AND
UNION IS CONDUCTING STUDY OF CARTE DE SEJOUR SYSTEM.
CFDT ANNOUNCED ITS STRONG SUPPORT FOR RIGHT OF AFRICAN
WORKERS TO BRING THEIR FAMILIES TO FRANCE.

5. CNTS AND CFDT AGREED TO EXPLORE WAYS IN WHICH TWO LABOR
CENTERS COULD COOPERATE IN FUTURE. CNTS ACCEPTED CFDT OFFER TO
GIVE TRADE UNION TRAINING TO SENEGALESE.

6. COMMENT: CFDT DELEGATION WARMLY RECEIVED BY CNTS AND GOS.
MAIRE OBLIGED HIS HOSTS BY PRAISING UNIFICATION OF SENEGALESE
LABOR UNIONS EVEN THROUGH PROCESS INVOLVED DISSOLUTION OF
CFDT-ALLIED RELIGIOUS UNION, CNTCS, AND BY ECHOING THIRD-
WORLD POSITIONS ON ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL ISSUES. MAIRE IN HIS
PRESS STATEMENT SEEMED TO BE TRYING TO FIND A PLACE FOR CFDT
IN FUTURE EFFORTS TO FORM UNITED AFRICAN TRADE UNION GROUP.
CNTS DID NOT GIVE ANY INDICATION OF HOW THEY FEEL ABOUT CFDT
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PAGE 03 DAKAR 01072 201824Z

INTEREST IN AFRICAN LABOR UNITY. SENEGALESE ARE ONLY SLOWLY
REVIVING THEIR INTEREST IN ALL-AFRICAN LABOR UNION GROUPING,
HAVING HELD THEMSELVES ALOOF FROM ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN TRADE
UNION UNITY (OATUU).
AGGREY

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